Webbing Activity Nancy Dye

1. Get a ball of yarn or string. It will need to have an anchor so a ball of string with a sturdy cardboard center works well. Colored string makes it even more visual.

2. Begin by giving the students a large topic or concept – for example “CHINA.”

3. Give the ball of string to one student who will offer ONE idea or something he knows about China – for example, he might say “egg rolls.” Then that student calls the name of one other student in the class and, holding the end of the string tightly, throws the ball of string to that student.

4. The second student adds to the topic (“Great Wall” for example) and holding the string at his point, then throws the ball of string to a third student and so on.

5. The final result should be that the string is crisscrossed all over the room with students holding their points.

This is a good pre-assessment to see what students already associate with a topic and gets them thinking about the topic.